

REMARKS

The above amendment with the following remarks is submitted to be fully responsive to the Official Action of May 4, 2004. Reconsideration of this application in light of the amendment and the allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claim 31 has been indicated as allowed while claims 7-8, 14, 16 and 18-27 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Also, claim 17 presently been indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph. In response, claim 17 has been amended to state that the utility is the utility company as mentioned in the specification. Thus, the rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph, has been overcome and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner's early indication of allowable subject matter is appreciated.

Claims 1-6, 9-13, 15, 28-30 and 34 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Batz in view of Schleich. In addition, claims 32-33 and 35 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Batz. In response, claims 32-35 have been canceled. Also, independent claims 1 and 29 have been amended to include allowable features. Specifically, independent claim 1 has been amended to include all the features of dependent claims 10, 12 and 14 while independent claim 29 has been amended to include the most important feature functional features of claims 6 and 7. Thus, is believed that newly amended independent claims 1 and 29 are allowable and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Likewise, all dependent claims are believed to be allowable in that they depend from what are believed to be allowable base independent claims.

New claim 36 is hereby added to reflect in independent form allowable claim 7 in combination with independent claim 1 while newly added

independent claim 37 is the combination of allowable claim 16 and independent claim 1 in combination with the intervening dependent claim 10. Thus, new claims 36, 37 are believed to be allowable and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. However, if the Examiner deems that any issue remains after considering this response, he is invited to call the undersigned to expedite the prosecution and work out any such issue by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim L. Brackett, Jr.', written over a horizontal line.

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